

Editorial

Two years ago in his editorial, Jay Moore wisely suggested that a major function of this journal is archival: to store for safe keeping articles that show the "breadth and depth of the contribution behavior analysis can make." He further proposed that a secondary goal was to reach those unfamiliar with behavior analysis. To these functions I would like to add a third: to challenge our thinking as we move forward in our understanding of a science of behavior. Thus, as this issue illustrates, *The Behavior Analyst* can also function as an advanced course in behavior analysis.

Clearly, a major theme of such a course would be the analysis and interpretation of complex human behavior. I believe the heart of the matter is verbal behavior and its relation to other verbal and non-verbal behavior, within and between individuals. To this end, Guerin and Foster's specially arranged section on attitudes, beliefs, and behavior could not be more appropriate.

But an advanced course in behavior analysis should provide more than interpretations; it should also bring us up to date on the basic science that allows for these interpretations. Pierce and Epling's lead-off article on activity anorexia is just one example of the relevance of basic research to understanding who we are. Equally important, though, is the basic research that is not directly applicable to

human behavior, for it is here where we find the foundation of behavior analysis. Over the next 3 years, I hope to encourage various researchers in the field to address major topics within our science by writing "tutorials." The thrust of these articles will be to summarize current thinking within a particular research area by discussing what is known and what we have yet to learn.

At still another level, an advanced course in behavior analysis should address the theoretical aspects of our science. Schlinger and Blakely's article on environmental operations is one example that falls within this purview.

Finally, an advanced course in behavior analysis would in all likelihood provide the needed historical footing to remind us from whence we came and to whom we owe our thanks. It is with great pleasure (and some melancholy) that I am able to republish the Memorial Minute on Burrhus Frederic Skinner, presented to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University on March 9, 1993. Written by a few of his old students and friends, this remembrance gives us another portrait of the man who so profoundly changed our view of the world and, as a result, our place in it.

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Editor